IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly replace the claims with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A data processing arrangement comprising:

- an input circuit [INP] for forming data items into successive groups of data [GRP] and for generating a basic control data item [BCD] and an additional control data item [SCD] for each group of data [GRP], ~~a basic control data item [BCD] indicating for each data item one of a plurality of terminals [1, 2, 3, 4] to which the data item should be applied, and an~~ the additional control data item [SCD] indicating for each data item if this data item is valid ~~[+]~~ or not valid ~~[-]~~;

- a data processing circuit [PRC], containing a plurality of terminals, for processing the data applied to the terminals in order to obtain an output data item; and

- an interconnection network [ICN] for applying selected ones of the data items in the successive groups of data [GRP] from said input circuit to corresponding ones of a plurality of ~~the~~ terminals [1, 2, 3, 4] of said processing circuit in dependence on the basic control data item [BCD] ~~and on the additional control data item [SCD], the interconnection network [ICN] being arranged to apply a data item to the terminal indicated by the basic control data item [BCD]~~ if the data item is valid ~~[+]~~ and, if the data item is not valid ~~[-]~~, to apply a valid data item instead.~~; and~~

~~- a data processing circuit [PRC] for processing the data applied to the terminals in order to obtain an output data item~~.

2. (Currently amended) A method of processing data, comprising the ~~following~~ steps of:

~~- a~~ forming ~~step[INP] in which~~ data items into successive groups of data [GRP] ~~are formed~~ and generating a basic control data item [BCD] and an additional control data item [SCD] ~~are generated~~ for each group of data [GRP], ~~a basic control data item [BCD] indicating for each data item one of a plurality of terminals [1, 2, 3, 4] to which the data item should be applied, and an~~ said additional control data item [SCD] indicating for each data item if this data item is valid ~~[+]~~ or not valid ~~[-]~~;

- ~~an application step~~ applying ~~[ICN] in which~~ the data items in successive groups of data [GRP] are applied to ~~the~~ terminals [1, 2, 3, 4] of a processor [PRC] in

dependence on the basic control data item [BCD] ~~and on the additional control data item [SCD], the interconnection network [ICN] being arranged to apply a data item to the terminal indicated by the basic control data item [BCD]~~ if the data item is valid ~~[+]~~ and, if the data item is not valid ~~[-]~~, to apply a valid data item instead; ~~and~~

- ~~a processing step [PRC] in which~~ wherein the data items applied ~~to the terminals~~ are processed in order to obtain an output data item.

3. (Currently Amended) A ~~"computer program" product~~ a computer program product, stored on a computer readable medium for a data processing arrangement, the "computer program" product comprising a set of instructions which, when loaded into a ~~the~~ data processing arrangement, causes this arrangement to carry out the following steps:

- a forming step ~~[INP]~~ in which data items are formed into successive groups of data [GRP] ~~are formed~~ and a basic control data item [BCD] and an additional control data item [SCD] are generated for each group of data [GRP], ~~a basic control data item [BCD] indicating for each data item one of a plurality of terminals [1, 2, 3, 4] to which the data item should be applied, and an~~ said additional control data item [SCD] indicating for each data item if this data item is valid ~~[+]~~ or not valid ~~[-]~~;

- an application step ~~[ICN]~~ in which data items of ~~the~~ successive groups of data [GRP] are applied ~~to the~~ terminals [1, 2, 3, 4] of a processor in dependence on the basic control data item [BCD] ~~and on the additional control data item [SCD], the interconnection network [ICN] being arranged to apply a data item to the terminal indicated by the basic control data item [BCD]~~ if the data item is valid ~~[+]~~ and, if the data item is not valid ~~[-]~~, to apply a valid data item instead; and

- a processing step performed in said processor [PRC] in which the data items applied ~~to the terminals~~ are processed in order to obtain an output data item.

4. (New) The arrangement as recited in claim 1, wherein said basic control data item [BCD] indicates for each data item one of a plurality of said terminals [1, 2, 3, 4] to which the data item is applied.

5. (New) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein said basic control data item [BCD] indicates for each data item one of a plurality of said terminals [1, 2, 3, 4] to which the data item is applied.

6. (New) The product as recited in claim 3, wherein said basic control data item [BCD] indicates for each data item one of a plurality of said terminals [1, 2, 3, 4] to which the data item is applied.